

February 22, 2013  
Testimonial of Colleen Alleyne  
Family School Connection  
70 Maynard Street  
Middletown CT, 06457

My name is Colleen Alleyne , I am a Home Visitor for the Family School Connection in Middletown at Bielefield Elementary School. I have been with the Family School Connection (FSC ) for a year and a half. I am currently working with 11 families all of which are single moms who are voluntarily getting support and services through the FSC. Some of the families I work with struggle with having the basic needs of everyday life. It is my job to help them find the resources for basic essential needs. I also work with families who not only struggle with having the basic needs of everyday life but may be struggling with their school age children with academics, behavior and discipline at school. Some of my familys' children struggle with high absenteeism and truancy issues. I help guide parents to become more involved and engaged in their child's education. I have been working with my families for well over a year and have had many successes with my families.

My first family that I was introduced to struggled with behavior issues at school and in the home. I have been using the curriculum Magic 123 for over a year and have been successful with the program. I stressed consistency with the mom: we worked on one issue at time. This child was struggling in the classroom with temper tantrums and rolling around the floor. We are now in a new school year and the child is no longer struggling with those behavior issues. The child is now interacting with his teacher and his class instead of me, the Home Visitor. The child's behavior in the class room was a direct reflection on his discipline in the home. This was a child who had bad sleeping habits during the week, a TV in his bed room with no adult supervision. I helped mom realize that these bad habits at home were causing serious

behavior problems in school. I am continuing to help give the mom the tools she needs to maintain a positive behavior in school and at home. What I am doing with this family no other program does this for school aged children. If we are talking about keeping parents engaged and involved in their child's education how can we consider taking the funding away from FSC.